INFORMATION REPORT	
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COUNTRY Hungary DATE DISTR. 8 July SUBJECT Effect of Land Distribution on the Hungarian NO. OF PAGES	y 1954
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1. In my estimation, land distribution in Hungary has been a failure because the proletariat and other landless groups, who in the early stages after World War II clamored for an equitable distribution of land, now refuse in most cases to work it diligently. From 1975 to	
stages after World War II clamored for an equitable distribution of land, now refuse in most cases to work it diligently. From 19/5 to 1948, the Hungarian Government surveyed all lands which were to be mistributed among the people. This land which was held by the peasantry (members of the Land Holders Farty) had for many years prior to World War II been a consistent agricultural producer for Hungary. (Excluding the Hortobagy Steppe west of Debracan which is a prestoral region)	
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such distribution for a number of reasons:

- a. Naturally the lands which they owned and cultivated were their own and were, of course, private property. They did not desire to lose what they felt was rightfully theirs through either perpetuation or prior purchase.
- b. They were aware that the movement for this distribution was begun by the so-called proletariat (landless people) who desired to obtain, at no cost, something to which the proletariat had not earned the right.

c.	
	the real clamor for land distribution lay much deeper than the
	expressions of the proletariat.
	clampred loudest, a number of disciplined Communists, were in reality
	acting under orders from Moscov

d. It was felt by members that this land reform was the primary target of the Soviet Union in the full realization that their strongest opposition would come from the land holders of Hungary who were definitely opposed to the Communist social and economic order. They realized that under the guise of land reform, the USSR was concentrating on the eventual dissipation of the strength of the Land Holders Party. During the entire period of surveying the lands held by the old Hungarian land owners engaged in conversations with many of them. They, without exception, were definitely opposed to distribution and, in particular, opposed to Communism and the USSR.

3. An important item relative to any future developments in Hungary which might lead to resistance against Communica should be such that full consideration be given to the worth of the oldline peasantry of Hungary. peasants and farmers are the backbone of opposition to Communism in Hungary. ace lass emphasis upon the potential value of the city dwellers and the so-called proletariat for to them the significance of a free way of life and a sense of values does not have the same connotation as it does to the old land holders. It is this group which in reality has suffered far more, (that is universally) than any other single segment of Hungarian society. This group, of course, has one thing in common -- the desire to regain what it deems to be rightfully its own and above all to disentablish collectivism and planned economy.

factors stand out; the land distribution program, the following

a. In theory, land was to be distributed by preordained plan and was to be ellotted in accordance with the number of members per family. The process of distribution was ostensibly premised upon fair and impartial allocation. However, in practice, there were so many cases in which a single individual (known to have been an extra liberal) received much larger percels of land than was meted out to a family of five or six members.

5. During the years of land distribution the new Hungarian State did not distribute arising lands which in former years were considered to be excellent pastoral areas. Such land was retained by the State; however, it was used in common by all farmers.

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